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(54) Automatic image cropping

(57) The present invention describes a method for automatic cropping of images containing regions where intensity levels are uniform and other regions where intensity levels vary considerably. An image to be automatically cropped is scaled down to a grid and divided into non-overlapping blocks. The mean and variance of

an intensity level are calculated for each block. Based on the distribution of variances in the blocks, a threshold is selected for the variance. All blocks with a variance higher than this threshold variance are selected as regions of interest. The regions of interest are then cropped to a bounding rectangle.



FIG. 3A

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REST AVAIL ARE COPY

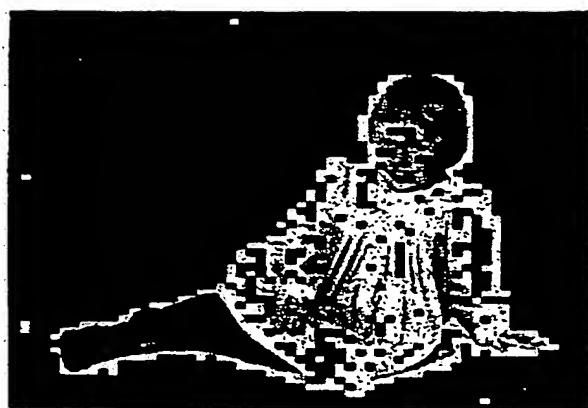


FIG.3B



FIG.3C



FIG.3D



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 97 30 5609

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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